



RANJIT SINGH

THE LION OF PUNJAB

Vol 726 | ₹90





The route to your roots

When they look back at their formative years, many Indians nostalgically recall the vital part Amar Chitra Katha picture books have played in their lives. It was **ACK – Amar Chitra Katha** – that first gave them a glimpse of their glorious heritage.

Since they were introduced in 1967, there are now **over 400 Amar Chitra Katha** titles to choose from. **Over 100 million copies** have been sold worldwide.

Now the Amar Chitra Katha titles are even more widely available in **1000+ bookstores all across India**. You can also buy all the titles through our online store **www.amarchitrakatha.com**. We provide quick delivery anywhere in the world.

To make it easy for you to locate the titles of your choice from our treasure trove of titles, the books are now arranged in five categories.

Epics and Mythology

Best known stories from the Epics and the Puranas

Indian Classics

Enchanting tales from Indian literature

Fables and Humour

Evergreen folktales, legends and tales of wisdom and humour

Bravehearts

Stirring tales of brave men and women of India

Visionaries

Inspiring tales of thinkers, social reformers and nation builders

Contemporary Classics

The Best of Modern Indian literature

Script
Rahul Singh

Illustrations
Devender

Editor
Anant Pai

Amar Chitra Katha Pvt Ltd

© Amar Chitra Katha Pvt Ltd, 1974, Reprinted December 2018,
ISBN 978-81-8482-095-9

Published by Amar Chitra Katha Pvt. Ltd., AFL House, 7th Floor,
Lok Bharati Complex, Marol Maroshi Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400059, India.

Printed at Zirius Images Pvt. Ltd, Bhiwandi, Thane - 421 311.

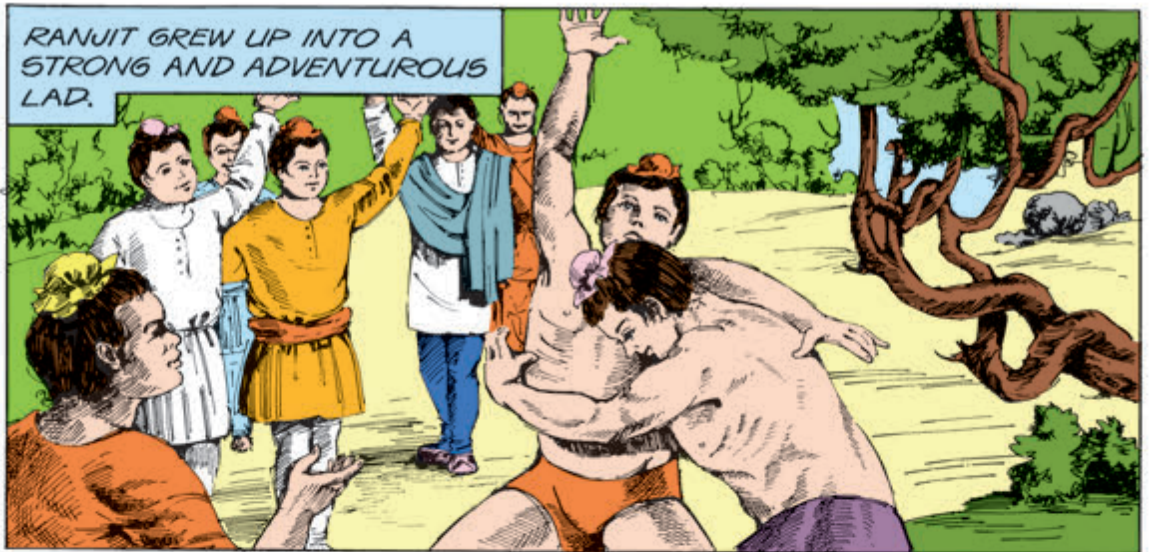
For Consumer Complaints Contact Tel : + 91-2249188881/2
Email: customerservice@ack-media.com

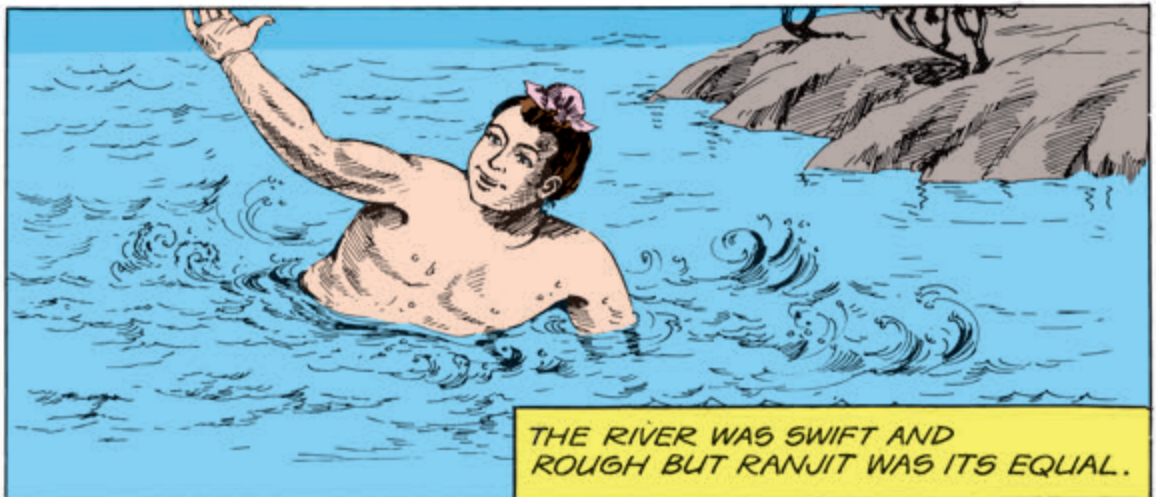
This book is sold subject to the condition that the publication may not be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system (including but not limited to computers, disks, external drives, electronic or digital devices, e-readers, websites), or transmitted in any form or by any means (including but not limited to cyclostyling, photocopying, docutech or other reprographic reproductions, mechanical, recording, electronic, digital versions) without the prior written permission of the publisher, nor be otherwise circulated in any form of binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

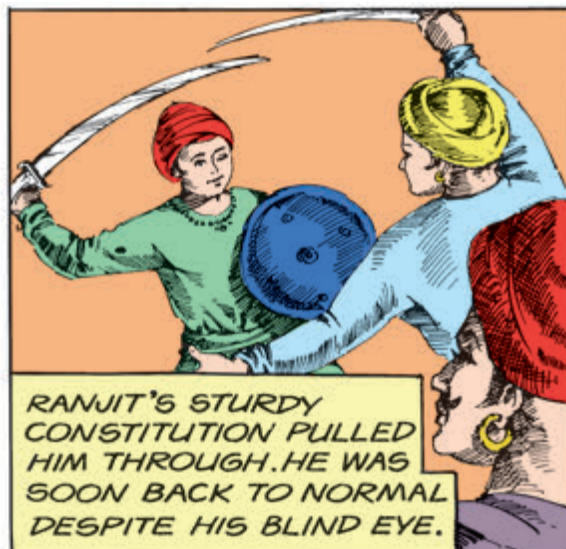
RANJIT SINGH

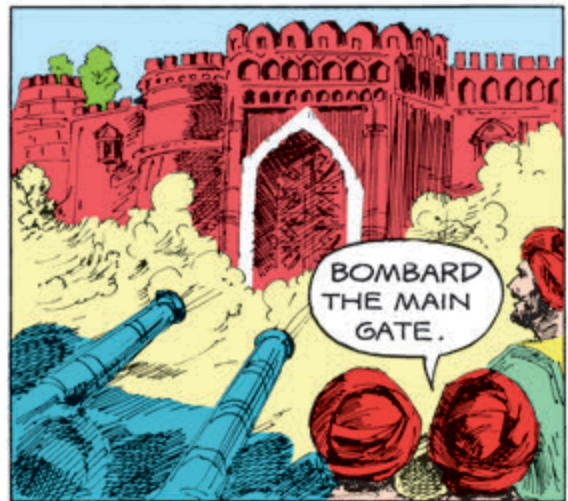
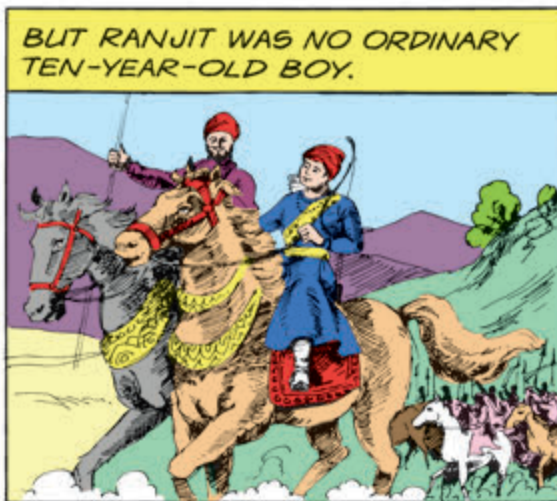


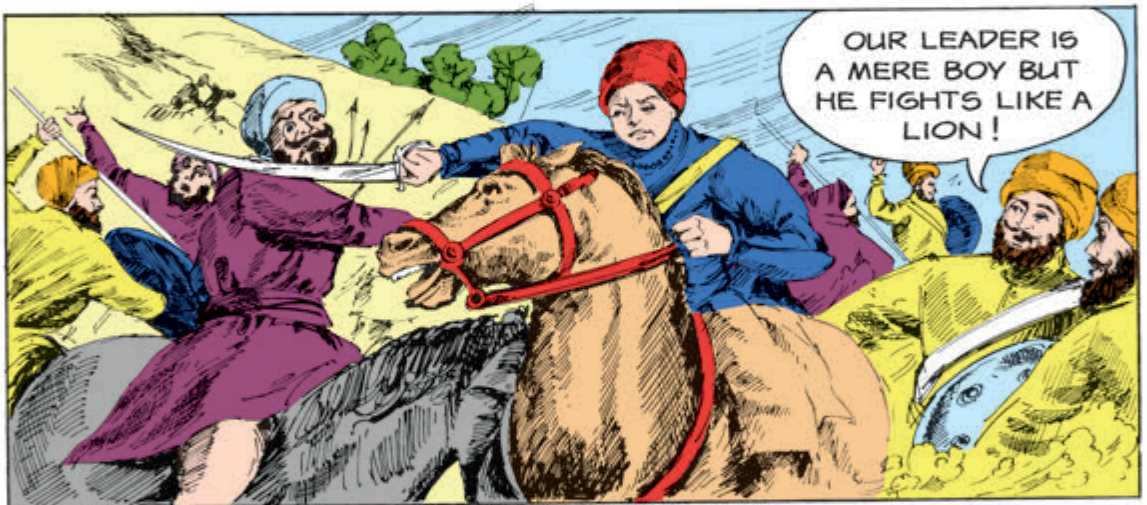
ON NOVEMBER 13, 1780, IN THE SMALL TOWN OF BUDRUKHAN NEAR JIND, RAJ KAUR GAVE BIRTH TO A BOY WHO WAS DESTINED TO BE GREAT. HE WAS CALLED RANJIT SINGH.

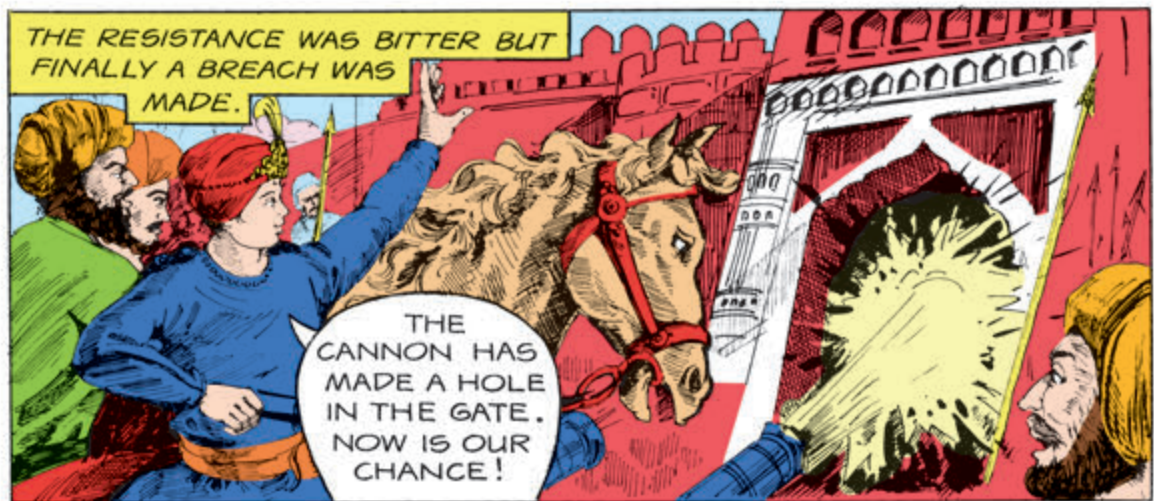
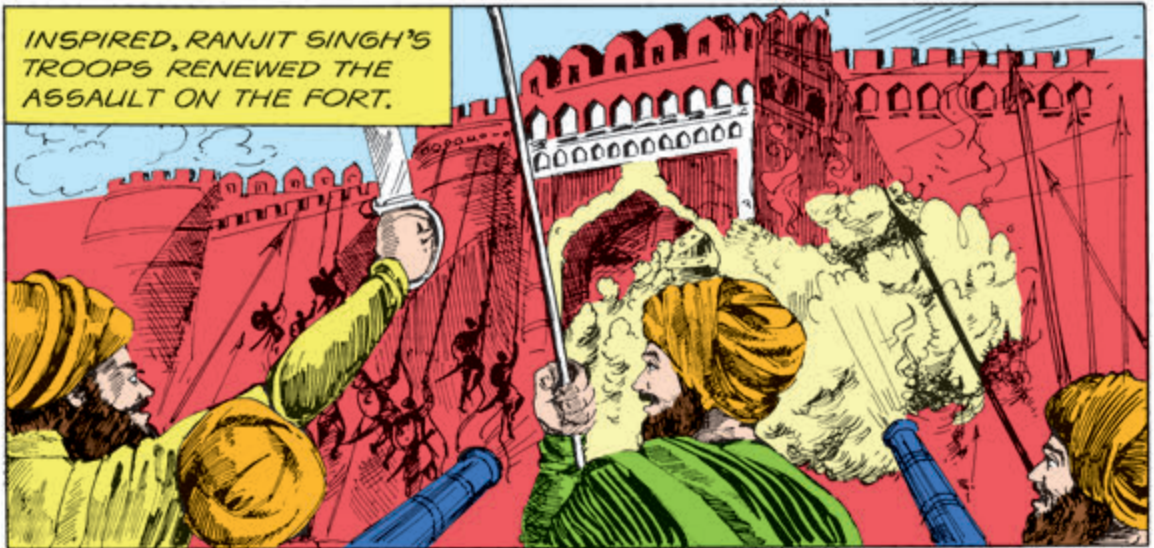










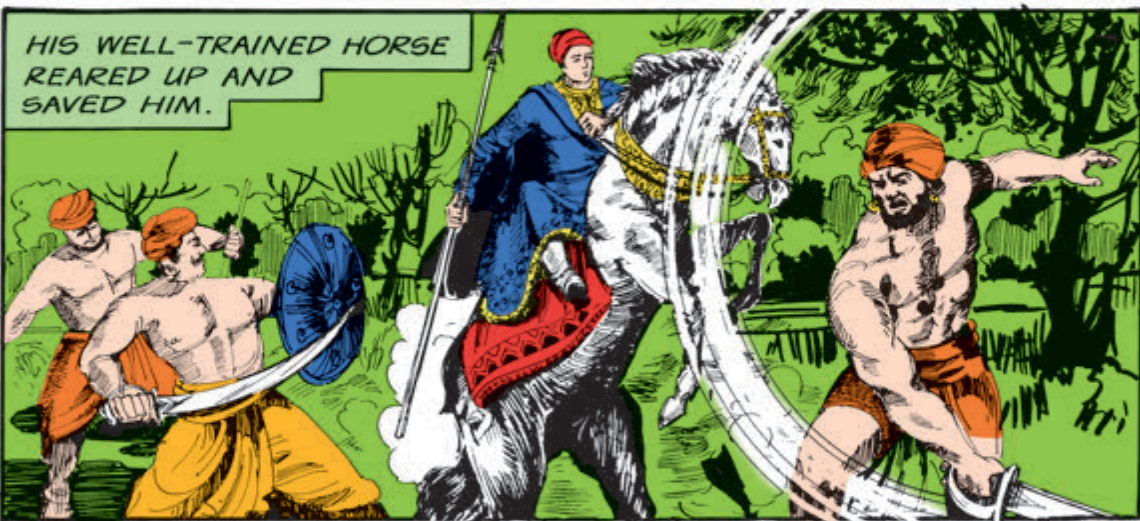




THE FOLLOWING YEAR, RANJIT SINGH
NARROWLY ESCAPED AN ATTEMPT ON HIS LIFE.



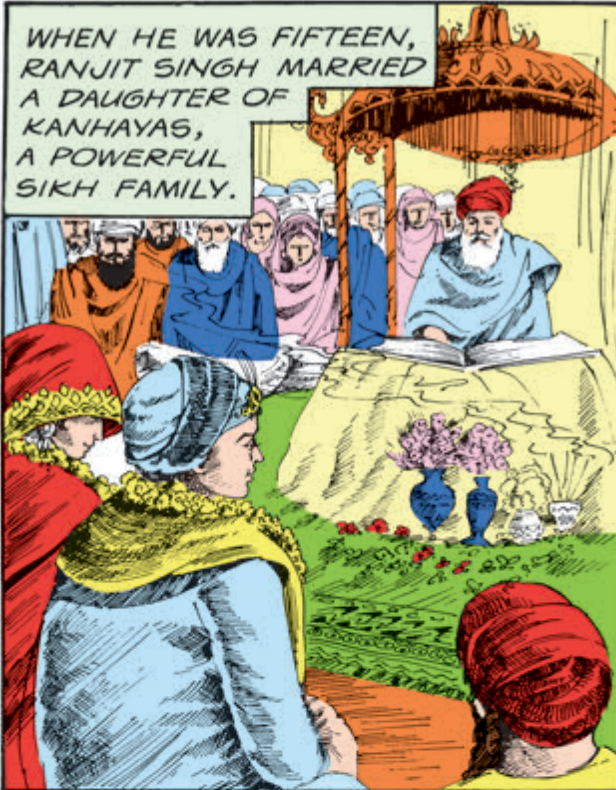
HIS WELL-TRAINED HORSE
REARED UP AND
SAVED HIM.



THIS LUCKY BREAK
WAS ALL THAT
RANJIT SINGH
NEEDED.



WHEN HE WAS FIFTEEN, RANJIT SINGH MARRIED A DAUGHTER OF KANHAYAS, A POWERFUL SIKH FAMILY.



HE SOON CAME UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF HIS MOTHER-IN-LAW, SADA KAUR, A REMARKABLE WOMAN.



I HAVE GREAT HOPES FOR YOU, RANJIT !

SHE URGED RANJIT SINGH TO BECOME THE RULER OF A UNITED PUNJAB.

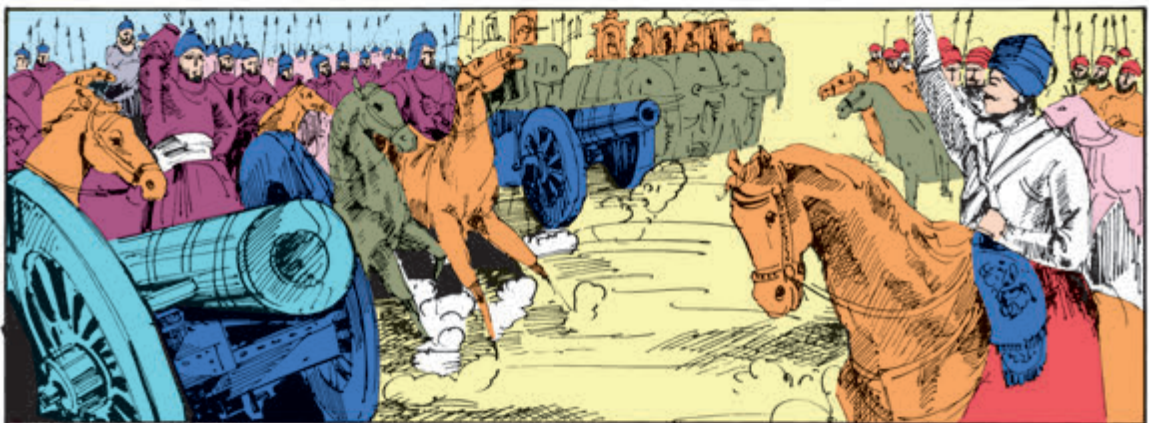
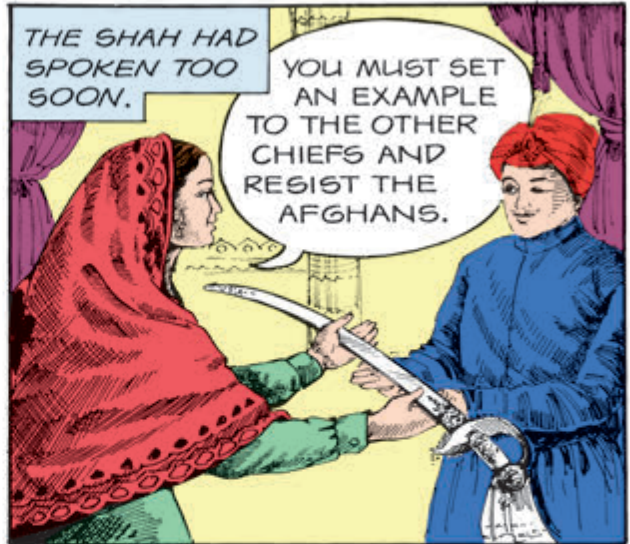


THE PUNJAB NEEDS ONE RULER.

I SHALL MAKE THE OTHER CHIEFTAINS SUBMIT TO ME.

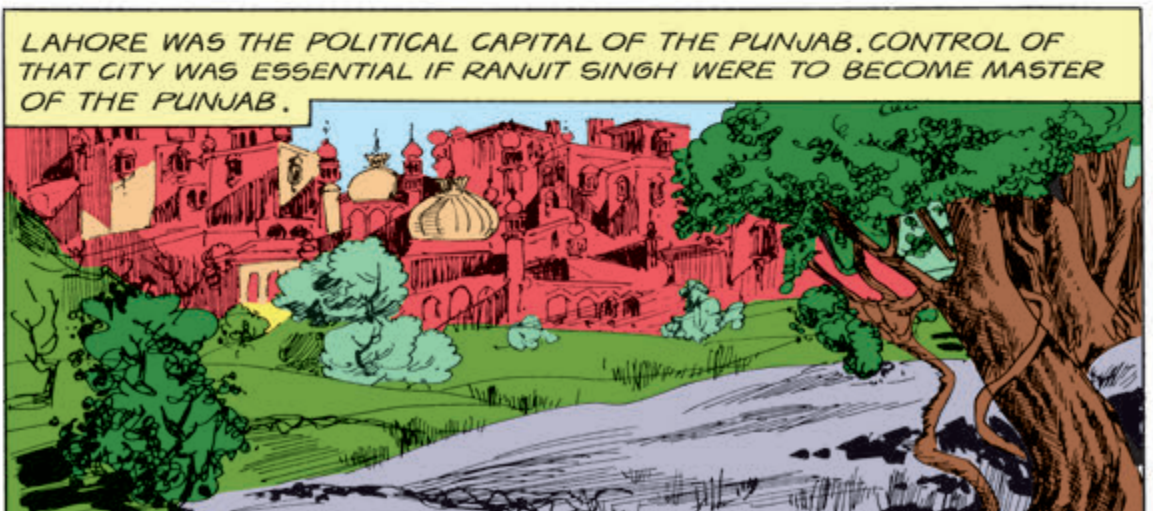
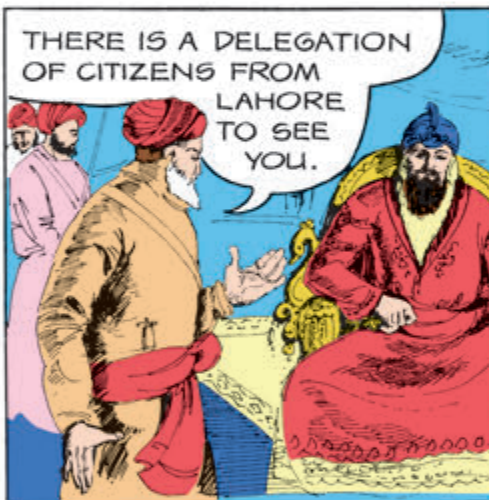
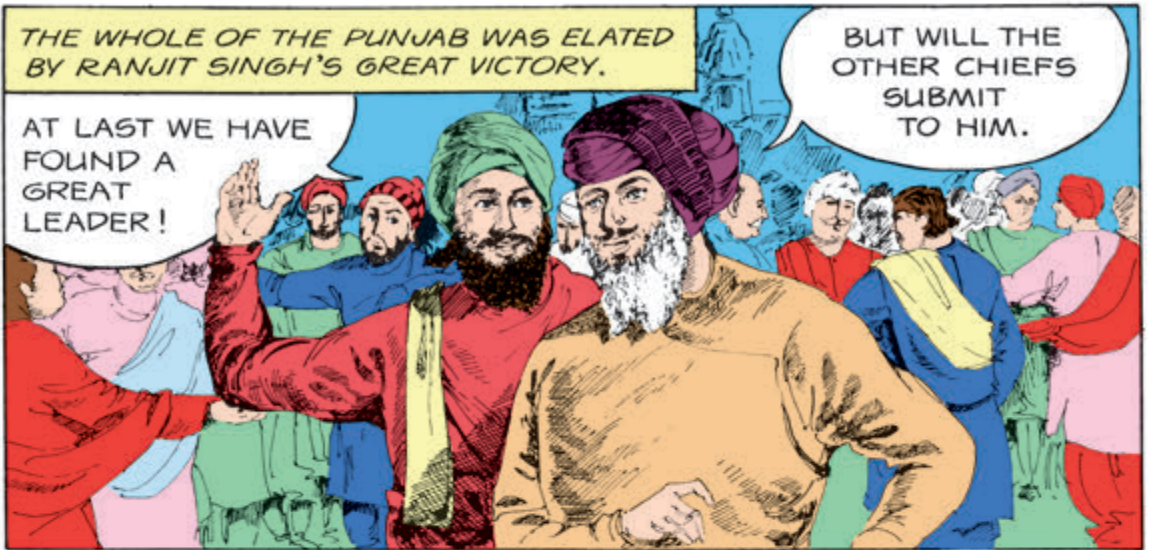


BUT BEFORE RANJIT SINGH COULD PROCEED, A NEW THREAT ENGAGED HIS ATTENTION.



THOUGH HEAVILY OUTNUMBERED, RANJIT SINGH DECIDED TO FACE THE MIGHTY AFGHANS. THE OVER-CONFIDENT AFGHANS WERE BEATEN BY A DETERMINED OPPONENT.







WITH THE BACKING OF THE PEOPLE OF LAHORE, RANJIT SINGH TOOK OVER THE CITY. HIS FIRST PUBLIC ACT WAS TO PAY HOMAGE AT THE BADSHAHI MOSQUE.



THOUGH RANJIT SINGH IS A SIKH, HE RESPECTS THE MUSLIMS.

YES, MANY MUSLIMS ARE NOW FIGHTING IN HIS ARMY.



RANJIT SINGH NEXT SUBDUED THE RAJA OF JAMMU.



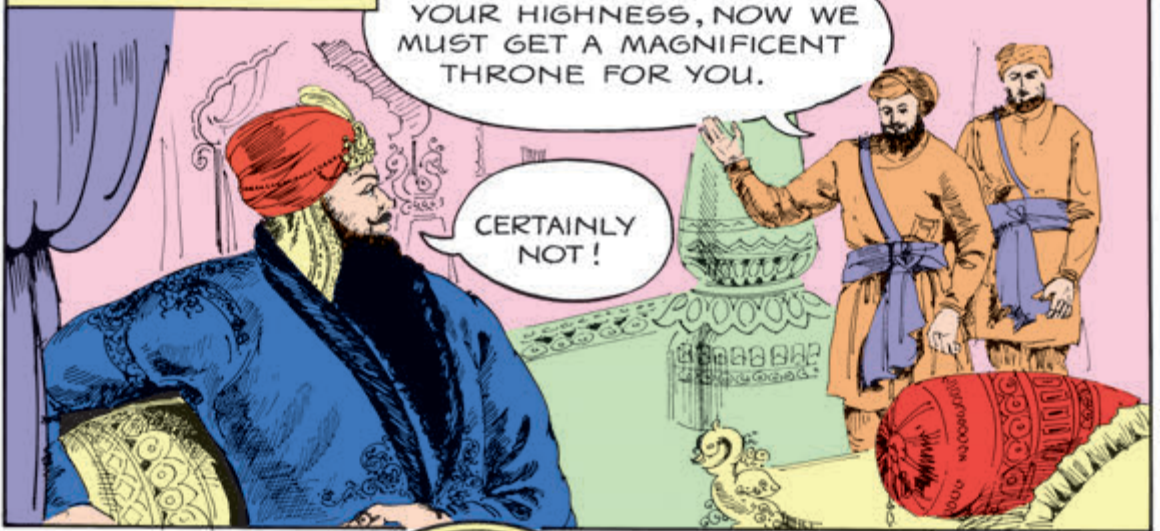
ON BAISAKHI (APRIL 12), 1801, RANJIT SINGH WAS DECLARED MAHARAJA OF THE PUNJAB.



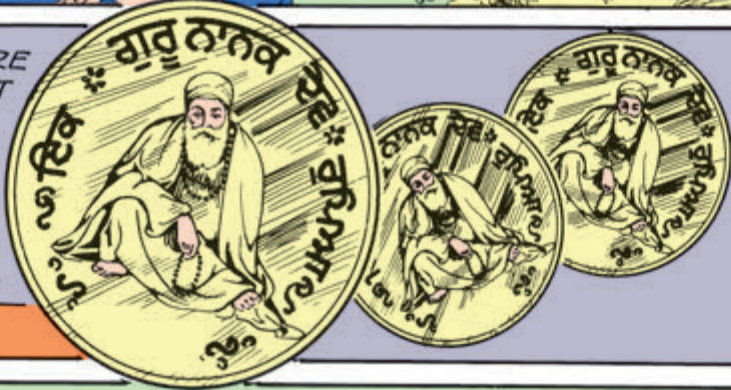
AFTER HIS CORONATION, RANJIT SINGH RODE ON AN ELEPHANT THROUGH THE STREETS OF LAHORE, SHOWERING COINS ON THE JUBILANT CROWD.



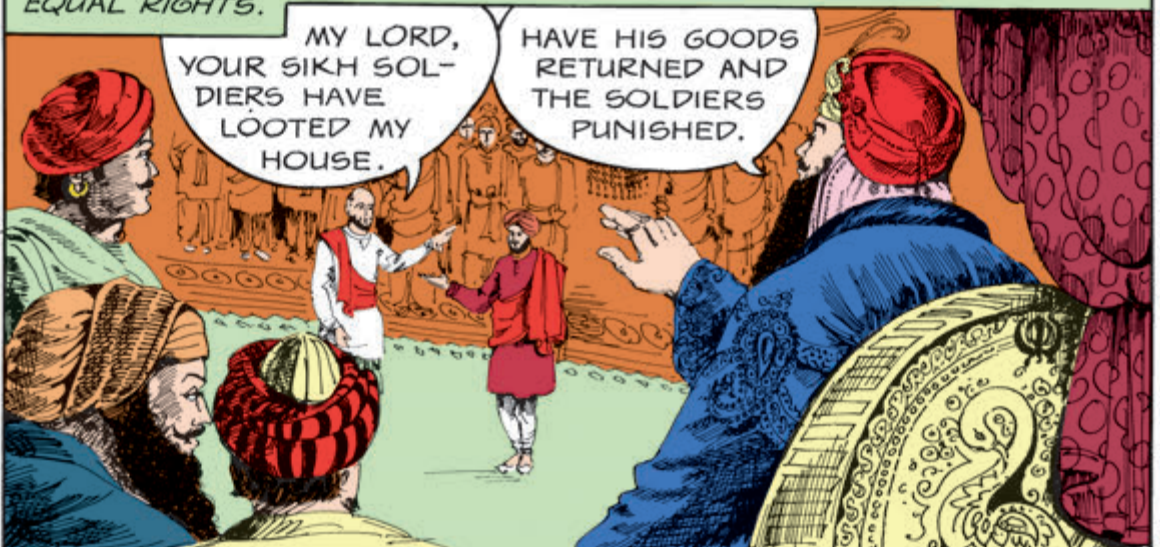
THOUGH HE WAS NOW A KING, RANJIT SINGH REFUSED TO GIVE UP HIS SIMPLICITY.

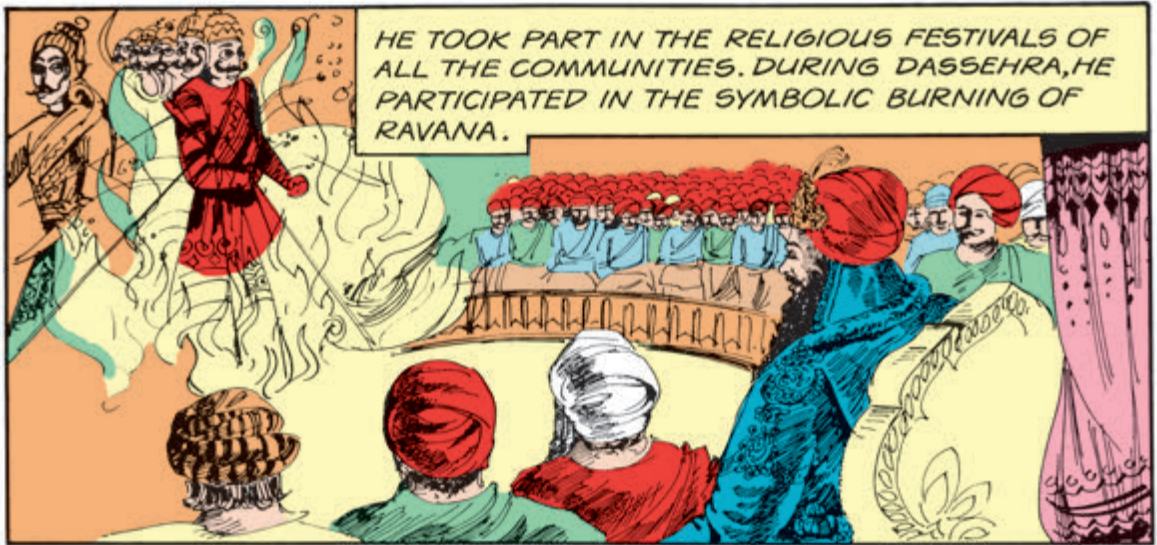


NEW COINS WERE STRUCK, BUT NOT WITH HIS NAME OR PORTRAIT. THEY BORE THE NAME AND THE LIKENESS OF GURU NANAK.



RANJIT SINGH WAS NOT ESTABLISHING A SIKH KINGDOM, BUT A PUNJAB STATE IN WHICH SIKHS, HINDUS AND MUSLIMS ENJOYED EQUAL RIGHTS.





ON ID, HE VISITED HIS MUSLIM FRIENDS.



ON GURU NANAK'S BIRTHDAY, HE BATHED WITH HIS FAMILY AND MEMBERS OF THE SIKH COMMUNITY AT THE AMRITSAR GOLDEN TEMPLE.



RANJIT SINGH'S COURT REFLECTED HIS SECULAR NATURE.



RANJIT SINGH NEEDED TREATMENT FOR HIS EYE.

MY EYE HAS BEEN TROUBLING ME!

CALL AZIZUDDIN. HE IS SUPPOSED TO BE AN EXCELLENT DOCTOR.



DOCTOR, THE MAHARAJA WOULD LIKE YOU TO TREAT HIM.





RANJIT SINGH'S EYE IMPROVED AND SOON AZIZ BECAME A REGULAR VISITOR TO RANJIT SINGH'S COURT. ONE DAY...

YOU ARE AN EXCELLENT DOCTOR. PLEASE COME TO MY COURT AND BECOME THE ROYAL PHYSICIAN.

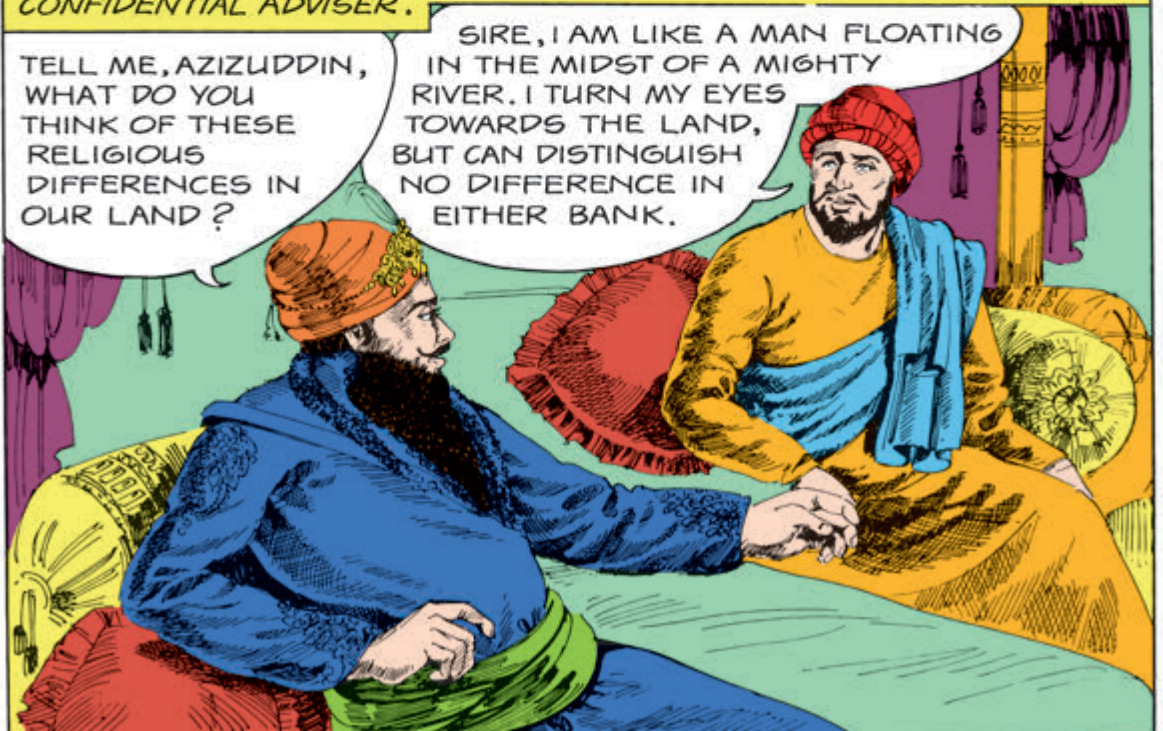
I AM HONOURED!



AZIZUDDIN ROSE FAST AND SOON BECAME RANJIT SINGH'S CONFIDENTIAL ADVISER.

TELL ME, AZIZUDDIN, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THESE RELIGIOUS DIFFERENCES IN OUR LAND?

SIRE, I AM LIKE A MAN FLOATING IN THE MIDST OF A MIGHTY RIVER. I TURN MY EYES TOWARDS THE LAND, BUT CAN DISTINGUISH NO DIFFERENCE IN EITHER BANK.



TRULY YOU ARE A WISE
AND TOLERANT MAN.
WE SHALL HENCEFORTH
CALL YOU
FAKIR AZIZUDDIN !



FAKIR AZIZUDDIN EVENTUALLY
BECAME RANJIT SINGH'S
FOREIGN MINISTER.



ANOTHER OF RANJIT SINGH'S MINISTERS WAS DINA NATH,
A KASHMIRI HINDU, WHO LOOKED AFTER THE FINANCES OF
THE STATE.

I NEED MORE
MONEY FOR
THE ARMY.

DON'T WORRY, SIRE. THE MERCHANTS
AND BUSINESSMEN
WILL CONTRIBUTE
TO THE TREASURY
IN RETURN FOR
THE PEACE AND
SECURITY YOUR
REIGN HAS
BROUGHT
THEM.



RANJIT SINGH'S MOST FAMOUS GENERAL WAS HARI SINGH NALWA, A SIKH, WHO REPEATEDLY DEFEATED THE AFGHANS.



HE WAS ALWAYS IN THE THICK OF BATTLE...



...AN INSPIRATION TO HIS SOLDIERS...



...AND AN OBJECT OF FEAR TO HIS ENEMIES.



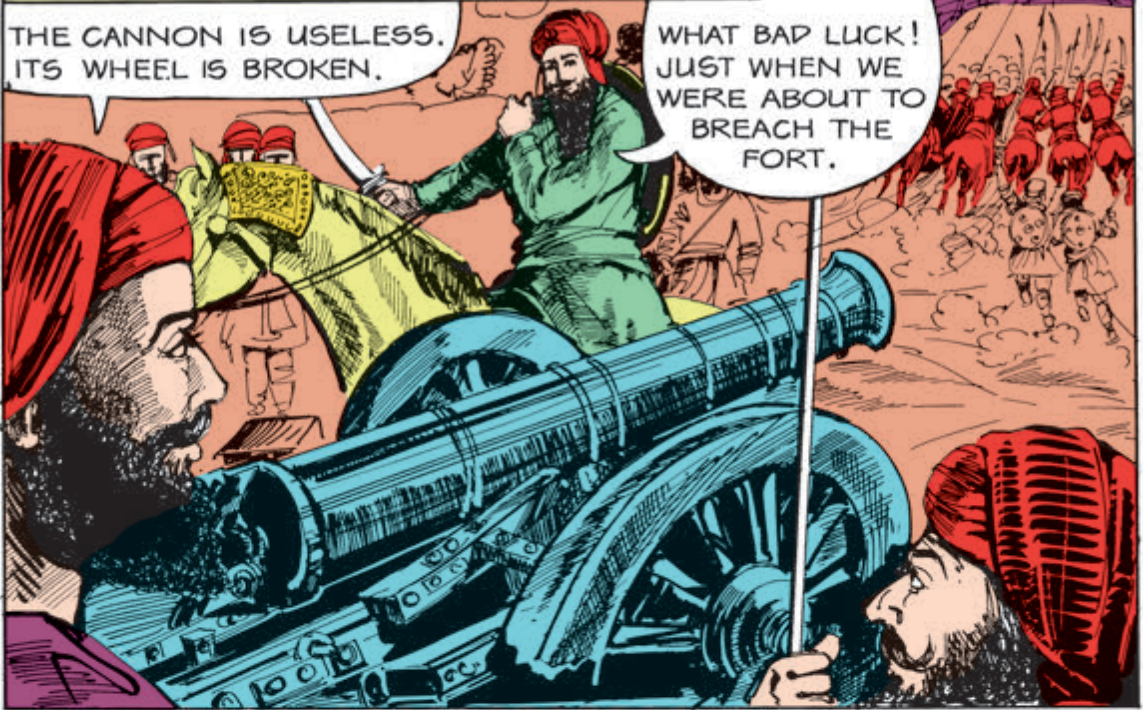
IT'S HARI SINGH NALWA.

RUN! WE DON'T STAND A CHANCE.

THE DEVOTION OF RANJIT SINGH'S SOLDIERS TO HARI SINGH NALWA WAS EVIDENT DURING THE SIEGE OF MULTAN.

THE CANNON IS USELESS.
ITS WHEEL IS BROKEN.

WHAT BAD LUCK!
JUST WHEN WE
WERE ABOUT TO
BREACH THE
FORT.

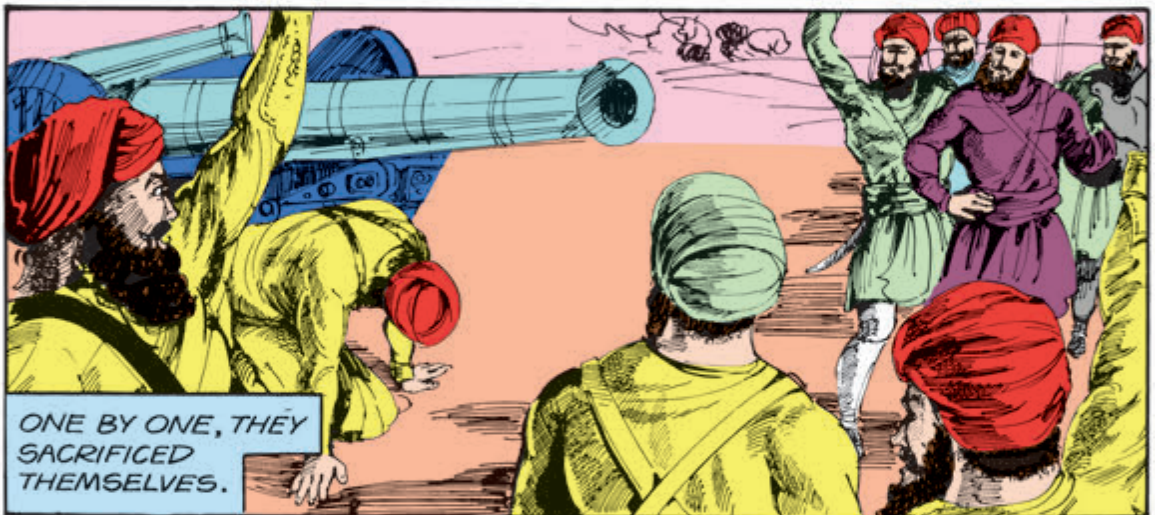


THERE IS NO TIME TO
REPAIR IT. WE WILL HAVE
TO WITHDRAW!

WAIT! I WILL
SUPPORT THE
CANNON ON
MY BACK.

SO WILL I!
SO WILL I!



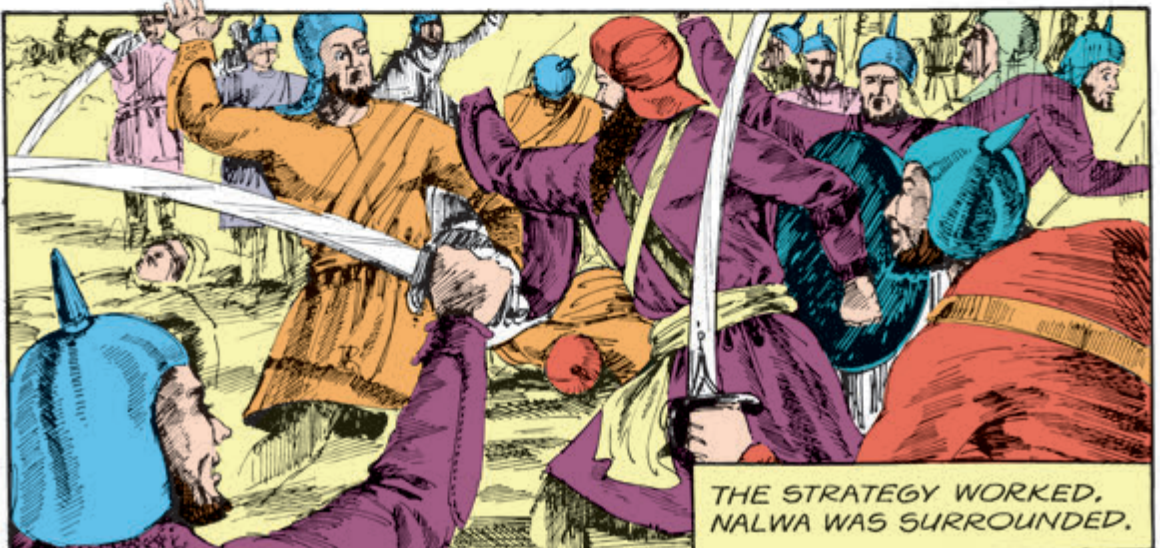


A BREACH WAS MADE. INSPIRED BY THE SACRIFICES, THE SIKH ARMY STORMED INTO THE CITADEL.



AFTER MULTAN, PESHAWAR AND KASHMIR FELL TO THE SIKH ARMY.





HE FOUGHT BRAVELY BUT WAS FINALLY OVERCOME.



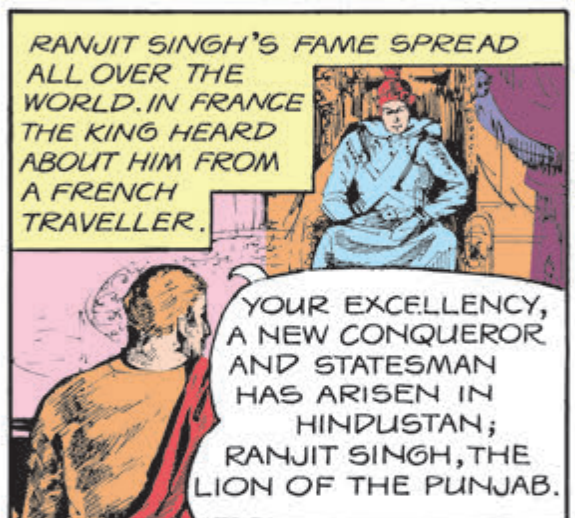
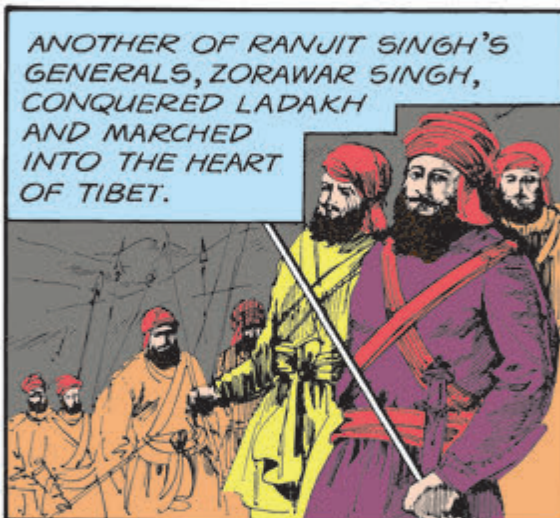
MY END IS NEAR.
BUT DO NOT
DISCLOSE THIS.
KEEP FIGHTING!

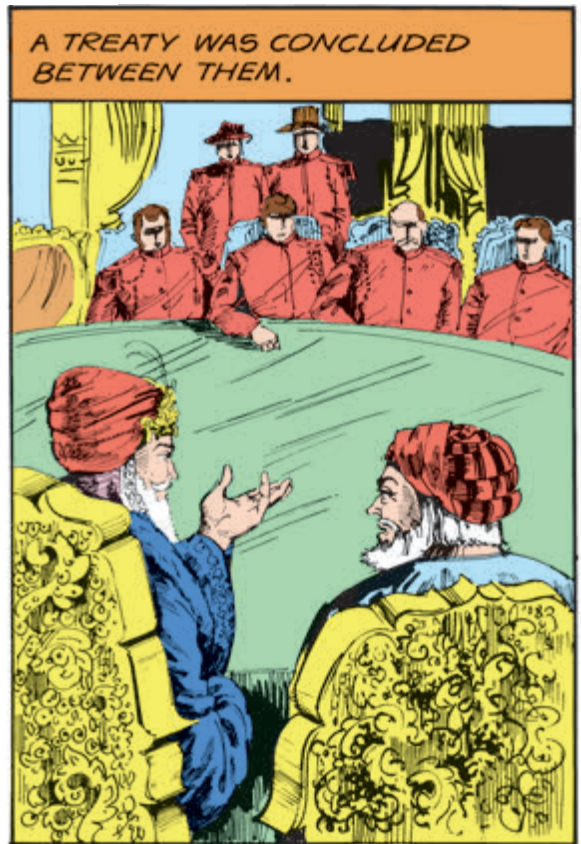


THOUGH LEADERLESS, THE SIKHS
KEPT FIGHTING UNTIL -

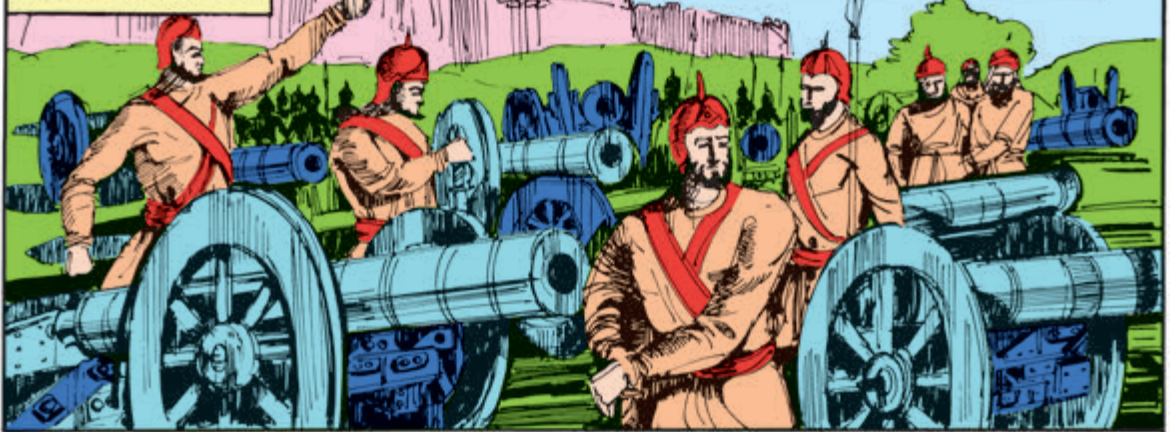
THE MAHARAJA
IS HERE.







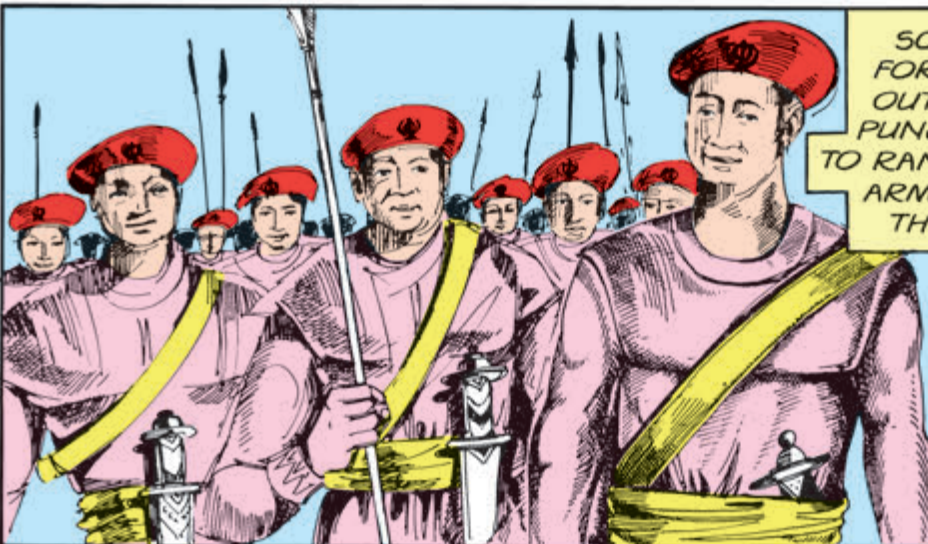
A STRONG ARTILLERY CORPS, WITH CANNONS AND GUNNERS WAS ALSO FORMED.



THE CAVALRY, THE MAIN STRIKING FORCE, WAS STRENGTHENED.



SOLDIERS OF FORTUNE, FROM OUTSIDE THE PUNJAB FLOCKED TO RANJIT SINGH'S ARMY—NOTABLY THE GURKHAS.



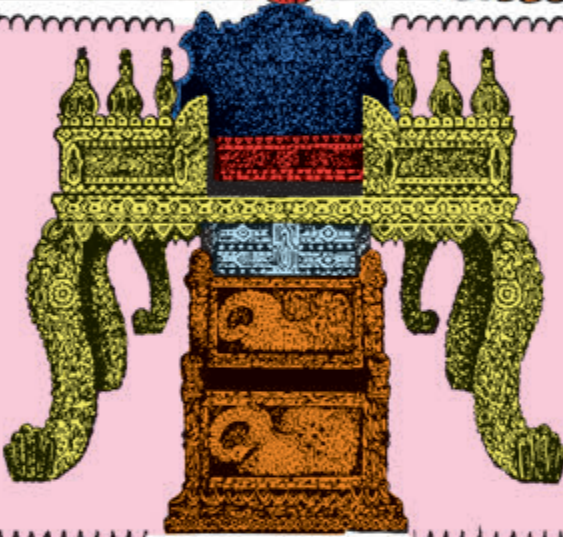
ONE OF THE CROWNING ACHIEVEMENTS OF RANJIT SINGH'S REIGN WAS HIS ACQUISITION OF THE FAMED KOH-I-NOOR DIAMOND.



IT WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN WORN BY THE PANDAVA KINGS.



AND IN MUGHAL TIMES IT ADORNED THE PEACOCK THRONE.



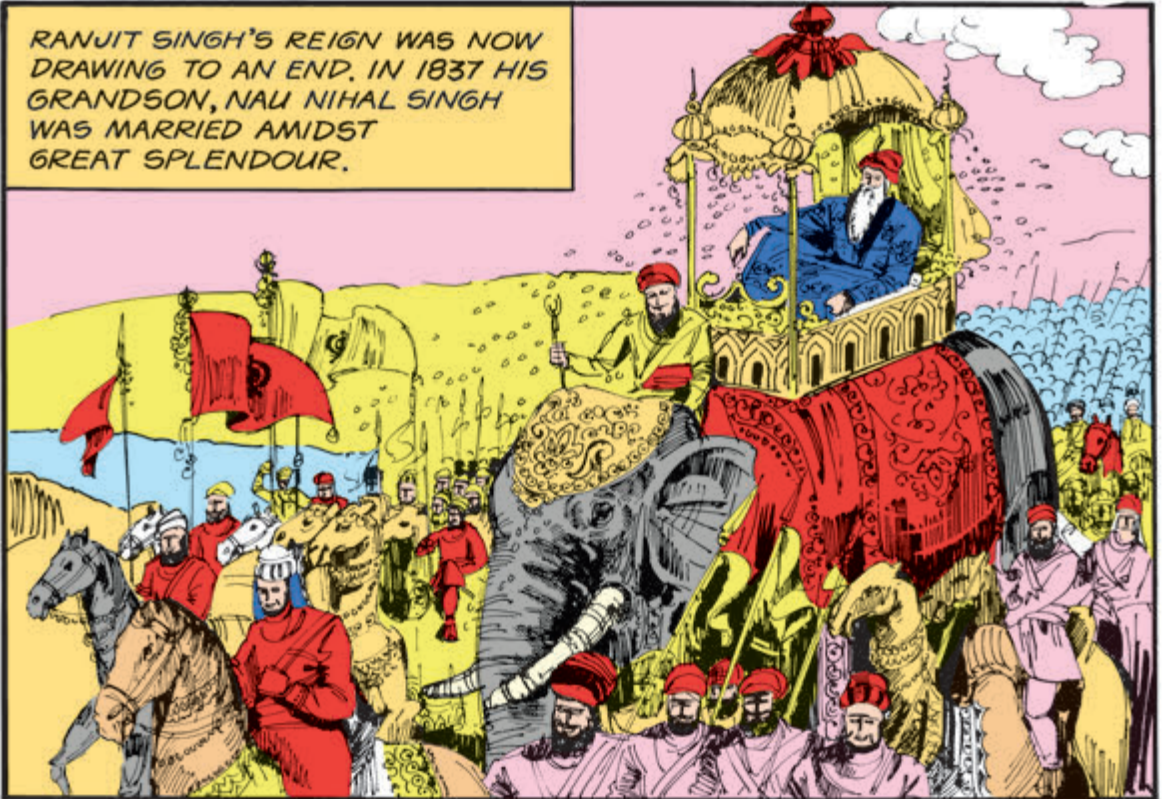
BUT WITH RANJIT SINGH'S CONQUEST OF KASHMIR, SHAH SHUJAH WAS FORCED TO HAND IT OVER TO THE SIKH KINGS.

SIRE, IT IS YOURS. THE BIGGEST DIAMOND IN THE WORLD.

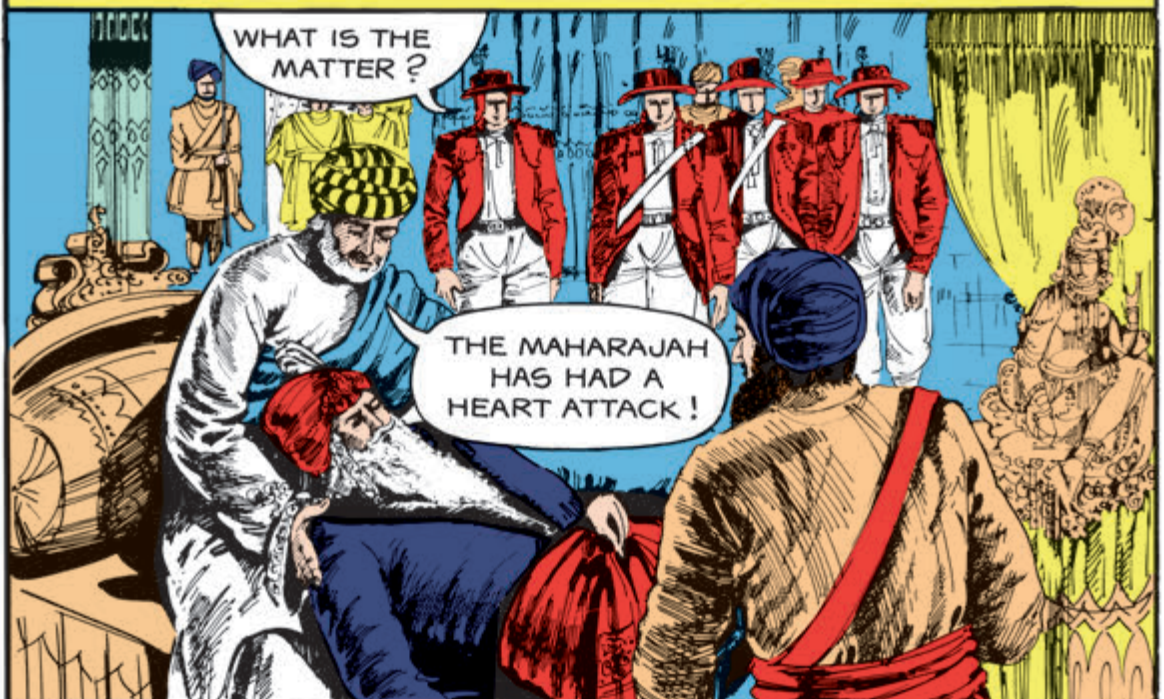
NADIR SHAH TOOK IT AWAY WHEN HE SACKED DELHI.

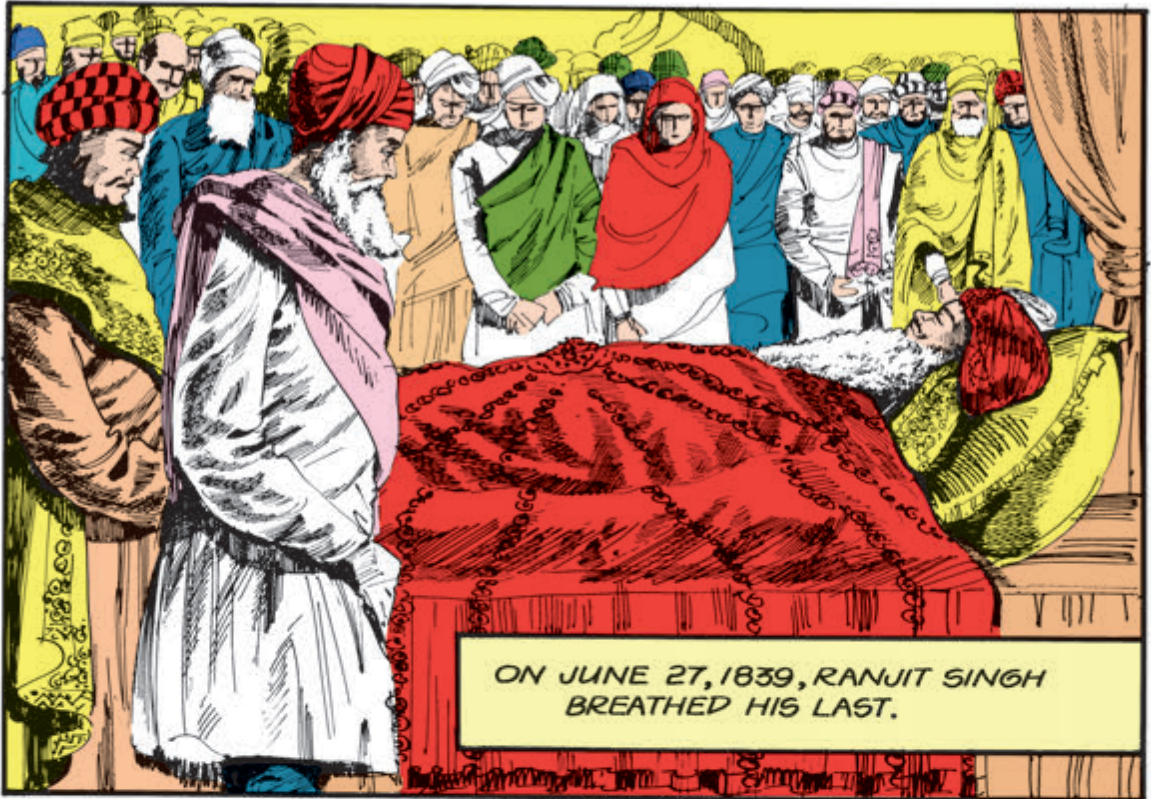


RANJIT SINGH'S REIGN WAS NOW DRAWING TO AN END. IN 1837 HIS GRANDSON, NAU NIHAL SINGH WAS MARRIED AMIDST GREAT SPLENDOUR.



A YEAR LATER, RANJIT SINGH HAD A STROKE DURING A MEETING WITH LORD AUCKLAND AT FEROZEPUR.





WHICH OF THE ACKs HAVE YOU STILL NOT READ?

EPICS AND MYTHOLOGY

Best known stories from the Epics and the Puranas

Abhimanyu
Agastya
Andhaka
Aniruddha
Aruni And Uttanka
Ashwini Kumars
Ayyappan
Bahubali
Bhanumati
Bheema And Hanuman
Bheeshma
Chandrahasa
Dasharatha
Dhruva And Ashtavakra
Draupadi
Drona
Elephanta
Gandhari
Ganesha
Ganesha And The Moon
Ganga
Garuda
Ghatotkacha
Hanuman
Hanuman To The Rescue
Harischandra
Heroes Of Hampi
Indra And Shachi
Indra And Shibi
Indra And Vritra
Jagannatha Of Puri
Jayadratha
Kacha And Devayani
Karna
Karttikeya
Konark
Krishna
Krishna And Jarasandha
Krishna And Narakasura
Krishna And Rukmini
Krishna And Shishupala
Krishna And The False
Vaasudeva
Kubera
Kumbhakarna
Mahabharata
Mahiravana
Nachiketa
Nahusha
Nala Damayanti
Pareekshit
Parashurama
Prabhavati
Pradyumna
Prahlad
Purushottam Dev And
Padmavati
Rama
Ravana Humbled
Saraswati
Sati And Shiva
Savitri
Shiva Parvati
Stories of Creation
Subhadra
Sudama
Sukanya
Surya
Tales From The
Upanishads
Tales Of Arjuna
Tales Of Balarama
Tales Of Durga
Tales Of Indra
Tales Of Narada

Tales Of Shiva
Tales Of Vishnu
Tales Of Yudhishtira
Tapati
Thanjavur
The Churning Of The
Ocean
The Gita
The Golden Mongoose
The King In
A Parrot's Body
The Lord Of Lanka
The Pandava Princes
The Pandavas In Hiding
The Parijata Tree
The Sons Of Rama
The Syamantaka Gem
Tirupati
Tripura
Uloopi
Vaishno Devi
Vali
Vishwamitra
Yayati

VISIONARIES

Inspiring tales of thinkers, social reformers and nation builders

Adi Shankara
Albert Einstein
Anant Pai
Babasaheb Ambedkar
Basaveshwara
Buddha
Chaitanya Mahaprabhu
Chanakya
Chokha Mela
Dayananda
Deshbandhu
Chittaranjan Das
Eknath
Fa Hien
Ghanshyamdas Birla
Guru Arjan
Guru Gobind Singh
Guru Har Gobind
Guru Nanak
Guru Tegh Bahadur
Hiuen Tsang
J.R.D Tata
Jagadis Chandra Bose
Jamsetji Tata
Jawaharlal Nehru
Jayaprakash Narayan
Jim Corbett
Jnaneshwar
Kabir
Kalidasa
Lal Bahadur Shastri
Lokmanya Tilak
M. S. Subbulakshmi
Madhvacharya
Mahavira
Marie And Pierre Curie
Megasthenes
Mirabai
Mother Teresa
Narayan Guru
Rabindranath Tagore
Ram Shastri
Ramana Maharshi
Ramanuja
Salim Ali
Shankar Dev
Soordas
Sri. Ramakrishna
Srinivasa Ramanujan
Subramania Bharati

Swami Chinmayananda
Swami Pranavananda
Tales Of Sai Baba
Tansen
Tulsidas
Vidyasagar
Vivekananda
Zarathushtra

INDIAN CLASSICS

Enchanting tales from Indian literature

Ananda Math
Ancestors Of Rama
Devi Choudhurani
Durgesh Nandini
Kadambari
Kannagi
Kapala Kundala
Kumanan
Maarthanda Varma
Malavika
Manonmani
Prince Jivaka
Raj Singh
Ratnavali
Shakuntala
The Adventures Of
Pratapana
The Elusive Kaka
Udayana
Urvashi
Vasantasena
Vasavadatta
Veer Dhaval

FABLES AND HUMOUR

Evergreen folktales, legends and tales of wisdom and humour

A Bag Of Gold Coins
Amrapali
Andher Nagari
Angulimala
Bikal The Terrible
BIRBAL STORIES
Birbal The Clever
Birbal The Genius
Birbal The Just
Birbal The Wise
Birbal The Witty
Birbal To The Rescue
The Inimitable Birbal
Chandralalat
Dhola And Maru
Friends And Foes
Gopal And The Cowherd
Gopal The Jester
HITOPADESCHA TALES
Choice Of Friends
How Friends Are Parted
Hothal
JATAKA TALES
Battle Of Wits
Bird Stories
Deer Stories
Elephant Stories
Jackal Stories
Monkey Stories
Nandi Vishala
Stories Of Courage
Stories Of Wisdom
Tales Of Misers
The Deadly Feast
The Giant And
The Dwarf
The Hidden Treasure
The Magic Chant

The Mouse Merchant
True Friends
Kanwal And Kehar
Kesari The Flying Thief
King Kusha
Manduka
PANCHATANTRA TALES
Crows And Owls
How The Jackal Ate
The Elephant
The Brahmin And
The Goat
The Dullard
The Greedy Mother-in-law
The Jackal And
The Wardrum
Raman Of Tenali
Raman The Matchless Wit
Sahasramalla
Sakshi Gopal
Satwant Kaur
Sharan Kaur
Shrenik
Sukhu And Dukhu
Sundari
Tales Of Maryada Rama
The Acrobat
The Adventures
Of Agad Datta
The Adventures Of
Baddu And Chhotu
The Bridegroom's Ring
The Celestial Necklace
The Clever Dancer
The Cowherd Of Alawi
The Fearless Boy
The Fool's Disciples
The Golden Sand
The Green Demon
The Unhappy Tiger
The Learned Pandit
The Lost Prince
The Magic Grove
The Miraculous Conch
The Mystery Of
The Missing Gift
The Pandit And The
Milkmaid
The Pig And The Dog
The Pious Cat
The Priceless Gem
The Prince And
The Magician
The Prophecy
The Queen's Necklace
The Rainbow Prince
The Secret Of The
Talking Bird
The Silent Teacher
The Tiger And The
Woodpecker
The Tiger Eater
Thugsen
Vidyut Chora
Vikramaditya's Throne

BRAVEHEARTS

Stirring tales of brave men and women of India

A Nation Awakes
Ahilyabai Holkar
Ajatashatru
Akbar
Amar Singh Rathor
Ashoka
Babur
Bagha Jatin
Bajirao I

Baladitya And
Yashodharma
Balban
Banda Bahadur
Bappa Rawal
Beni Madho And Pir Ali
Bhagat Singh
Bidhi Chand
Bimbisara
Chand Bibi
Chandra Shekhar Azad
Chandragupta Maurya
Chennamma Of Keladi
Dara Shukho And
Aurangzeb
Durgadas
Ellora Caves
Hakka And Bukka
Hari Singh Nalwa
Harsha
Hemu
Humayun
Jahangir
Jallianwala Bagh
Kalpana Chawla
Kochunni
Krishnadeva Raya
Kunwar Singh
Lachit Barphukan
Lalitaditya
Mangal Pande
Noor Jahan
Padmini
Panna And Hadi Rani
Paurava And Alexander
Prithviraj Chauhan
Raja Bhoja
Raja Raja Chola
Rana Kumbha
Rana Pratap
Rana Sanga
Rani Abbakka
Rani Durgavati
Rani Of Jhansi
Ranjit Singh
Rash Bihari Bose
Roopmati
Sambhaji
Samudra Gupta
Sea Route To India
Shah Jahan
Shalivahana
Shantala
Sher Shah
Shivaji
Subhas Chandra Bose
Sultana Razia
Surjya Sen
Tachcholi Othenan
Tales Of Shivaji
Tanaji
Tenzing Norgay
The Historic City Of Delhi
The Rani Of Kittur
Tipu Sultan
Veer Hammir
Veer Savarkar
Velu Thampi
Vikramaditya

CONTEMPORARY CLASSICS

*(New Category)
The best of modern Indian literature*

The Blue Umbrella

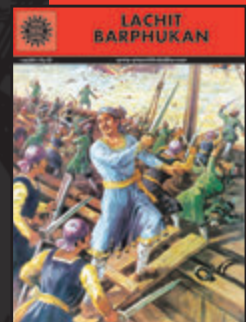


Titles available in English and other Regional languages on www.amarchitrakatha.com

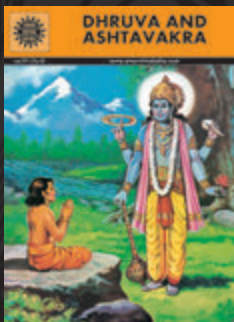
RANJIT SINGH

Even the conquering British had to tread cautiously around this one-eyed, all-seeing lion-hearted king of Punjab. Strong and outstandingly brave, Ranjit Singh defied death at every turn. Only ten years old when he first led a victorious army, he went on to become maharaja, in 1801, of all Punjab and then lands beyond.

OTHER ACK **BRAVEHEARTS:**



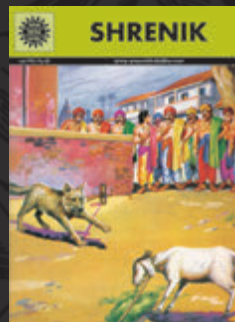
ALSO LOOK FOR:



EPICS & MYTHOLOGY



INDIAN CLASSICS



FABLES & HUMOUR



VISIONARIES

Buy online at www.amarchitrakatha.com

ISBN 978-81-8482-095-9



9 788184 820959